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POLICY 10-16

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BY JOHN BARTON

L.L.
QUANDT

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER SAYS THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT PLAN TO SEND TROOPS INTO THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT MAY RECONSIDER IF THE SOVIET UNION SENDS ITS TROOPS TO AID THE ARAB COUNTRIES.

"WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF SENDING TROOPS TO THE MIDDLE EAST," KISSINGER TOLD REPORTERS MONDAY NIGHT DURING A WHITE HOUSE DINNER GIVEN BY PRESIDENT NIXON IN HONOR OF FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE WILLIAM P. ROGERS. BUT, HE ADDED, "IF THE RUSSIANS SEND TROOPS IT WILL BE A DIFFERENT MATTER."

MEANWHILE, AMBASSADORS TO THE UNITED NATIONS FROM ALGERIA, KUWAIT, MOROCCO AND SAUDI ARABIA SOUGHT APPOINTMENTS WITH NIXON TODAY, PRESUMABLY TO URGE THE UNITED STATES NOT TO ARM THE ISRAELIS.

KISSINGER MADE HIS REMARKS AT THE END OF A DAY IN WHICH THE STATE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THE UNITED STATES HAS STARTED TO RESUPPLY ISRAEL WITH ARMAMENTS BECAUSE OF INCREASED SOVIET AIRLIFTS OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO ARAB STATES.

"WE HAVE BEGUN SOME RESUPPLY OF ISRAEL," STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ROBERT J. MCCLOSKEY TOLD NEWSMEN. "TO AN APPRECIABLE EXTENT THIS IS DESIGNED TO PREVENT THIS MASSIVE AIRLIFT BY THE SOVIETS FROM UNSETTLING THE MILITARY BALANCE IN THE AREA," HE SAID.

OTHER U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THE SOVIET UNION STARTED SENDING TANKS AND OTHER HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO SYRIA AND EGYPT OVER THE WEEKEND. THEY ALSO SAID THE SOVIETS HAD STARTED USING CIVILIAN AS WELL AS MILITARY AIRCRAFT IN THEIR AIRLIFT.

THE UNITED STATES IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN SUPPLYING ISRAEL WITH MISSILES AND AMMUNITION SINCE THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR, SENDING THEM VIA COMMERCIAL AIRLINERS CHARTERED BY ISRAEL. ON MONDAY THE UNITED STATES STARTED SENDING HEAVIER EQUIPMENT ON U.S. MILITARY PLANES FLYING TO ISRAEL VIA THE AZORES.

U.S. OFFICIALS SAID THAT NOT EVERY ISRAELI PLANE LOST WOULD BE REPLACED, SINCE ISRAEL COULD NOT USE THEM DUE TO HEAVY LOSS OF PILOTS AND CREWS.

SEN. HENRY M. JACKSON, D-WASH., TOLD UPI THAT "THE NUMBER OF F4S THAT ARE MOVING TO ISRAEL IS WHOLLY INADEQUATE."

PENTAGON OFFICIALS SUMMONED COMMERCIAL AIRLINE EXECUTIVES MONDAY TO REVIEW OF THE U.S. MILITARY AIRLIFT TO ISRAEL. COMMERCIAL PLANES WERE CONTRACTED BY THE PENTAGON DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

PENTAGON SPOKESMAN JERRY FRIENDHEIM SAID "NO FINAL DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AT THIS TIME ON WHETHER OR NOT ADDITIONAL CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT ASSISTANCE WILL BE NECESSARY IN SUPPORT OF NORMAL MAC (MILITARY AIRLIFT COMMAND) ACTIVITIES."

DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES R. SCHLESINGER SAID ON CAPITOL HILL MONDAY "WE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN A SIGNIFICANT RESUPPLY EFFORT TO ISRAEL, BUT WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO TERMINATE THE HOSTILITIES IN THE NEAR FUTURE."

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